

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1-36 (previously canceled)

37-47 (canceled)

48. (previously presented) A method of producing a catalyst/catalyst carrier containing less than 0.3% by weight aluminum comprising impregnating a lattice-layer silicate with an acid, hydrothermally treating the acid-impregnated lattice-layer silicate at a temperature of between 160 and 300°C and a partial water vapor pressure of between 4 and 80 bar_{abs}, and washing the hydrothermally treated, acid-impregnated, lattice-layer silicate with a wash solution selected from the group consisting of acidic solutions, basic solutions, or neutral solutions.

49. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 48 wherein said neutral solution is water.

50. (previously presented) The process according to any one of Claims 48 or 49 wherein said acid comprises a mineral acid.

51. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 50 wherein said mineral acid comprises phosphoric acid.

52-54 (canceled)

55. (previously presented) The process according to any one of Claims 48 or 49 wherein said washing takes place at a temperature of between 20 and 100°C.

56. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 55 wherein said washing takes place at a temperature of between 70 and 90°C.

57. (previously presented) The process according to any one of Claims 48 or 49 wherein said washing solution comprises hydrochloric acid.

58. (previously presented) The process according to any one of Claims 48 or 49 wherein the washed, hydrothermally treated, acid-impregnated, lattice-layer silicate is rinsed with water.

59. (previously presented) The process according to any one of Claims 48 or 49 wherein said washing solution comprises water containing up to 30 parts of concentrated hydrochloric acid.

60. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 58 wherein said rinsing is conducted until the rinsing water is neutral.

61. (previously presented) The process according to any one of Claims 48 or 49 wherein said lattice-layer silicate is purified by burning off adhering organic carbon-containing compounds at a temperature of between 300 and 1000°C prior to any of the steps set forth in Claim 48.

62-77 (cancelled)

78. (new) The process according to any one of Claims 48 or 49 wherein said hydrothermal treatment is conducted at a temperature of between 220 and 260°C and a partial water vapor pressure of between 16 and 25 bar_{abs}.